

MICHIGAN



"PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF
PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

Elmer L. Cerano, *Executive Director*

**PROTECTION & ADVOCACY
SERVICE, INC.**

September 19, 2016

Thomas H. Landry
President
Highland

John McCulloch
1st Vice President
Royal Oak

Veda A. Sharp, MSW
2nd Vice President
Detroit

Jane Shank, MSW
Treasurer
Interlochen

Terri Lynn Land
Secretary
Byron Center

Kate Pew Wolters
Immediate Past President
Grand Rapids

Pamela Bellamy, Ph.D.
Lansing

Alethea Brinkerhoff
Bloomfield Hills

Hansen Clarke
Detroit

Mark R. Lezotte, Esq.
Detroit

Douglas P. Olsen
East Lansing

Paul Palmer
Lansing

Travar Pettway
Canton

Selena M. Schmidt
Shelby Township

Mark Stephenson
Troy

MPAS Statement on Consent to Release of Protected Health Information

Michigan Protection & Advocacy Service, Inc. (MPAS) is the mandated protection and advocacy agency serving people with disabilities in Michigan.

Many MPAS customers receive mental health services and currently enjoy independent state law rights protections, including the right to consent before mental health records are shared among health care providers. Federal law offers less protection in this regard. Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), mental health information may be shared with other health providers for purposes of treatment, payment, or administration of health care services unless a person knows to object and objects to such a release. Psychotherapy notes have additional protections, but other types of mental health records do not.

People with disabilities benefit from laws that offer independent state protections, including a protected right to consent to release of mental health information.

For more information, please contact Elmer L. Cerano, Executive Director, or Mark McWilliams, Director of Public Policy and Media Relations, in MPAS' Lansing office.

Main Office:

4095 Legacy Parkway, Suite 500 • Lansing, MI 48911-4264
517.487.1755 (Voice or TTY)
800.288.5923 (Information and Referral)
517.487.0827 (Fax)

Marquette Office:

129 W. Baraga Ave., Suite A • Marquette, MI 49855-4644
906.228.5910
866.928.5910 (Toll Free)
906.228.9148 (Fax)

MPAS website: www.mpas.org